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5/28/02

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

Expedited Handling
Response Under 37 CFR 1.116

Appln. Ser. No.:	Filed:	Inventor(s):	Atty Dkt:
09/543,951	6 April 2000	W. Dalton	1633-015A
Title: Improved Brush Seal Designs for Turbines and Similar Rotary Apparatus			
Examiner: M. Rogers			Art Unit: 3626

Asst. Comm'r for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231-0001VIA FACSIMILE
703-872-9327

RESPONSE AND AMENDMENTS

Dear Sir:

In complete and timely response to the Office Action mailed 18 April 2002 in which the rejection of the claims was made final, please first amend the application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Twice Amended.) A retractable packing segment for an apparatus that extracts work from the expansion of a gaseous working fluid, said apparatus comprising a rotating shaft disposed in a casing, said packing segment disposed in a ring formed from a plurality of packing segments and centered on an axis defined by said shaft to provide a seal therearound, said segment comprising: an inner face for sealing against said shaft; at least one brush seal disposed on the inner face of said segment and an outer face supporting a T-shaped extension; opposing side ends of said segment cut parallel with radii of said axis; and said brush seal having opposing ends at least one of said ends cut non-parallel with radii of said axis.